

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
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**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
NOVEMBER 1, 2013**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was assembled on November 1 2013, at 10:13 a.m. and was held inside the Community Room at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056

II. Roll Call

Roll was taken and the following members were present: Bryan Cash, Allan Boodnick, Karen Finn, Yolanda Gorman, Russ Guiney, Chair Allan Kingston, Vice Chair Starlett Quarles, Craig Sap, Sara Amir, Jason Marshall, Patricia O'Toole (arrived after roll) and Marina Voskanian.

Members absent were Lloyd Dixon*, Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker*, Robert Jones*, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas*, Joan Cardellino, Joseph Edmiston, and Patrick Reynolds.

Staff present was David McNeill, Gail Krippner, Gloria Dangerfield and Supervising Deputy Attorney General Christina Arndt.

(* = advance notification of absence)

III. Approval of Minutes (September) G. Allan Kingston, Chair

The Chair called the motion for approval. Member Boodnick made the motion, but stated that on Page 4, Item 9 of the minutes, his statement of the Governor's role in appointments, he meant as a compliment. The Chair asked the secretary to take roll for the vote; Bryan Cash – abstained (was not present at September's meeting) Karen Finn Yolanda Gorman - abstained (was not present at September's meeting) Russ Guiney – yes, Starlett Quarles – abstained (was not present at September's meeting) Craig Sap – yes, Allan Boodnick – yes, and the Chair voted yes. Motion carries.

IV. Presentation of the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook Film Produced by the California Legacy Project – Craig Sap, District Superintendent Angeles Sector, California State Parks

Member Sap reported the screening was held three weeks ago and thanked Sean Woods and David McNeill for putting the event together. He went on to say California State Parks and California State Parks' Angeles District is very pleased to have the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook included in the Legacy Project; feels it' a real testament to the work done in the district. He stated that under State Parks' urban initiative, they've invested over one-hundred million dollars in acquisitions, remediation, and construction of urban parks. On November 6, they are holding their legislative tour of the Los Angeles State Historic Park.

Following the screening of the film, Mim Shapiro, resident and member of the Blair Hills Association stated that she worked towards not having homes being built on the property that is now the Baldwin Scenic Overlook and sees the popularity of the park. She asked if a copy of the filming could be provided to the Blair Hills Association. Mr. McNeill promised he would look into it.

V. Consideration of a Resolution Rescinding Resolution 13-09 and Related Amendments for Agreement #BHC11000 with Los Angeles Infrastructure Academy – David McNeill, Executive Officer

Mr. McNeill stated that Resolution 13-13 will rescind Resolution 13-09 (an authorization originally approved in June) to amend the Los Angeles Infrastructure Academy Grant (for the Baldwin Hills Parklands Restoration Project). Member Guiney made the motion to approve and was seconded. The Chair called for the vote. All ayes, motion carries.

VI. Consideration of a Resolution Approving Staff Comments for the L.A. Citywide Cat Program Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration – David McNeill, Executive Officer

Mr. McNeill stated the resolution (13-14) is asking the board's permission to submit a comment letter before November 4, to the City of Los Angeles to address the issue of feral cats. The City is looking to modify their municipal code to allow feeding of cat colonies on un-managed lands. Member Guiney made the motion to approve and was seconded. All ayes, motion carries.

**VII. Executive Officer Report – BHC Representatives
Project Status Update
Fiscal Update**

Gail Krippner gave the project status updates:

- At last month's meeting, the grand opening of the Eastern Ridge Project was held. It was a good event with Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and others working out on the new equipment. Currently staff is working to close out the project. Other funding from the County of Los Angeles has come in to build additional parking lots.
- Phase Two Improvements at Norman O. Houston Park. The City of Los Angeles has awarded their construction contract and a pre-construction meeting was held. We are waiting to receive the construction schedule from them. They still expect completion in June 2014.
- City of Culver City Ramp Design (Bicycle Ramp at Higuera Street). The City is at 65% construction documents for the ramp. They have run into some issues regarding right of way and utilities, they are looking to complete January 2014.
- Milton Street Park. MRCA are working on getting final permits in place.
- Stoneview Nature Center. The County is still in site design process.
- Stocker Corridor Park to Playa Section. MRCA has construction documents in review and they are hoping to obtain permits in February and go out to bid early 2014.
- USC Grant for Biota Update. Project should start on schedule pending encumbering of funds.
- **Mr. McNeill gave the fiscal updates:**
- Attachment II, Summary Sheet by Fund. Fiscal month two reflects the bond fund balances for end of August thru September. There is eighteen million dollars remaining in the combined Prop 40 and 84 funds. ELPF for staff support/project has \$308,000 and staff support for Prop 40 has \$90,000.
- Prop 84. Staff completed interviews for the Park Specialist position; made an offer, which the applicant declined.
- In the last board meeting, staff went over the strategic plan, which accounts for the proposed expenditure of eighteen million dollars in projects and acquisitions.
- Attachment III is for bond cash that can be used immediately for current bills. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy is requesting more funds or to move funds around to ensure the Conservancy has cash to continue paying grantees on a timely basis.

VIII. Oath of Office – Allan S. Boodnick

Member Allan Boodnick (Speaker Appointee) was reappointed to the board and was given the oath of office by Supervising Deputy Attorney General Christina Arndt.

IX. Ad Hoc Committee Reports – Committee Chairs
Board Development
Marketing & Special Events

Board Development.

Member Boodnick stated he would like to start with a subcommittee for development and more productivity amongst the members. He had names to suggest and asked if they would be interested: Member Voskanian, Member Sap, Member Quarles, and Member Kingston, all agreed to serve on the subcommittee. Member Boodnick also suggested Member Dixon. He or the board secretary will contact the subcommittee members to set up a meeting date.

Marketing & Special Events.

Mr. McNeill stated he was reporting for Member Dupont-Walker, but first informed the board the nominations ad hoc committee will meet before next meeting to discuss eligibility of individuals for consideration of Vice Chair. The Marketing and Special Events board committee met to handle the Baldwin Hills Dam event taking place on December 14, in commemoration of the dam disaster that occurred 50 years ago. County Parks will host the event and Supervisor Ridley-Thomas will provide funding for the infrastructures; i.e., booths, stages, etc. Invited guest include homeowner groups, emergency services, rebuilders and local leaders. The committee is working on press and outreach as well as seeking local heroes from that day. Member Quarles will also be assisting.

X. Board Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Member Sap reported that last month, California State Parks Director, Major General Anthony Jackson toured Kenneth State Recreation Area (hosted by Los Angeles County Parks). The Director was very impressed with partnership of the State's operating agreements with the County of Los Angeles, particularly with County Parks. The Director also toured the Eastern Ridgeline and Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook. From there they toured Castaic and Placerita Park. Member Sap mentioned they are planning construction at the L.A. State Historic Park and are hoping to go to bid in February 2014.

Member O'Toole apologized for her extended absences; she's been involved in trial and right now is on hiatus until January.

XI. Adjournment

There being no more business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Approved:

G. Allan Kingston
Chairman